

Message Text

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ACTION SY-05

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FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 736
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

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DEPT FOR A/SY/FO/ARA, SANTO DOMINGO FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJ: DISCONTINUANCE OF GOVERNMENT LEASE S-252-FBO-60 DCM'S
RESIDENCE KNOWN AS "SUNNINGRIDGE"

REF: A) NESS/BLYSTONE TELECON OF 4/4/78
B) JOHN SIMMONS ARA/MGT/FM MEMORANDUM TO A/FBO TRUMAN BROWN
DATED 12/7/77

1. WITHIN THE NEXT 90 DAYS, THE PRESENT DCM, RUSH W. TAYLOR
WILL BE REASSIGNED TO THE DEPARTMENT. THE GOVERNMENT LEASE
ON THE RESIDENCE IN WHICH HE AND HIS FAMILY RESIDE SHOULD
BE BROKEN AND A NEW RESIDENCE FOUND FOR THE INCOMING DCM
FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- A. THE PRESENT PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN AN OLD SECTION OF
DOWNTOWN NASSAU.
 - B. THE HOUSE IS LOCATED ON A DEAD-END STREET WITH NO
PARKING SPACE.
 - C. THE DEAD-END STREET IS A GATHERING POINT FOR PROSTITUTES,
DRUG PEDDLERS AND JUST PLAIN UNDESIRABLES.
 - D. LAST YEAR, A YOUNG MAN, U.S. CITIZEN, ON DRUGS, BROKE
INTO THE RESIDENCE BY BREAKING A WINDOW AND GAINED
COMPLETE ACCESS TO THE RESIDENCE AND ITS OCCUPANTS.
 - E. ANOTHER BREAK-IN OCCURRED AT THE END OF THE YEAR
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- WHERE THE BURGLAS GAINED ACCESS TO THE RESIDENCE BY WAY
OF THE ROOF.
- F. THE DAUGHTER OF A SOUTH AMERICAN RESIDING 100 YARDS
FROM THE RESIDENCE WAS RAPED IN BROAD DAYLIGHT.
 - G. AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO BREAK INTO THE GARAGE WHICH IS
LOCATED 100 FEET FROM THE RESIDENCE AND IS IN POOR CONDITION.
 - H. LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE RESIDENCE IS AN EMPTY

LOT WITH A GREAT DEAL OF TROPICAL UNDERGROWTH THAT PROVIDES TREMENDOUS CONCEALMENT FOR ANY WOULD-BE INTRUDER.

I. A ROAD PARALLELS THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE RESIDENCE ON THE WEST. DUE TO THE HEIGHT OF THIS ROAD ANY OBJECT CAN EASILY BE THROWN INTO THE GROUNDS.

J. THE PERIMETER WALL SURROUNDING THE RESIDENCE IS NOT OF SUFFICIENT HEIGHT TO PREVENT ENTRY TO THE GROUNDS AND CAN EASILY BE SCALED AT NUMEROUS POINTS.

K. THE WINDOW FRAMES OF THE RESIDENCE ARE OF 19 CENTURY CONSTRUCTION AND IN NEED OF REPLACEMENT.

L. DUE TO THE SECTION IN WHICH THE RESIDENCE IS LOCATED AND THE LEVEL OF CRIME WITHIN THE SECTION, BAHAMIAN POLICE HAD TO BE ASSIGNED TO THE RESIDENCE. THIS IS THE ONLY RESIDENCE OTHER THAN THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE TO WHICH POLICE HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED SOLELY BECAUSE THE RESIDENCE IS LOCATED IN A HIGH CRIME SECTION.

2. THE MAINTENANCE OF THE RESIDENCE HAS BEEN A NIGHTMARE. THE HOUSE IS IN EXTREMELY POOR CONDITION WITH THE ROOF NEEDING REPLACEMENT, REQUIRING NEW WINDOW FRAMES, WATER PIPING IS RUSTING AND REQUIRES REPLACEMENT. THE ELECTRICAL WIRING IS VERY OLD AND NEEDS TO BE REPLACED AND IS A FIRE HAZARD. THESE ARE ONLY A FEW EXAMPLES, THE LIST CAN EASILY GO ON AND ON. THE EMBASSY HAS A COMPLETE FILE ON THE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS SOME OF WHICH ARE YET TO BE COMPLETED.

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3. THE REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER, JAMES BLYSTONE STRONGLY RECOMMENDS DISCONTINUANCE OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT LEASE ON THE DCM RESIDENCE AND RECOMMENDS THAT A NEW RESIDENCE FOR THE DCM BE LEASED.

4. IN DECEMBER 1977, A TEAM FROM WASHINGTON (A/FBO, SY, ARA/MGT/FM AND RSO) VISITED NASSAU. IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE TEAM THAT A NEW RESIDENCE FOR THE DCM BE OBTAINED UPON THE DEPARTURE OF THE PRESENT DCM. AMBASSADOR SCHWARTZ CONCURRED WITH THE TEAM'S RECOMMENDATION.

SCHWARTZ

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NNN

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